



Port Community Information Bulletin # 10-03*
Marine Safety Office (813) 228-2189
Tampa, Florida

Effective Date: Jan 27, 2003
Expiration Date: TBD

UPDATE TO COAST GUARD BOARDING REQUIREMENTS

The unprecedented events of September 11, 2001 elevated maritime port security to ensure the continued safety and security of the marine transportation system. In response, the U.S. Coast Guard is enforcing a wide range of security measures on all ships entering US ports. All ships are required to provide advance notice of arrival information and must provide crew and passenger lists for all persons on board, regardless of the nationality of crew and passengers or the flag of the vessel. In addition to this nationwide measure, Coast Guard Captains of the Port may employ any security measure deemed necessary to ensure the safety and security of their particular ports. Overall security measures may vary from port to port. Ship agents and operators should work directly with the appropriate Coast Guard Captain of the Port for current information on local restrictions that may be in place.

The Captain of the Port will evaluate each vessel scheduled to arrive in Tampa Bay and will notify the agent, owner and/or operator if the vessel identified is to be held at the Tampa Bay Sea Buoy "T" and boarded at sea. If so identified, the vessel will be required to stay west of Sea Buoy "T" to await boarding. Under no circumstances shall the vessel proceed east of Sea Buoy "T" without permission from the Captain of the Port. You can anticipate that the Coast Guard will board the vessel just northwest of the Sea Buoy "T". Boarding arrangements will be developed through the vessel's representative within the 96-hour notice of arrival window.

These security boardings are expected to last approximately 60 minutes.

I urge your cooperation in this matter, to assist in ensuring the safety and security of the U.S. Marine Transportation System.

J. M. FARLEY
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port

*This Port Community Information Bulletin (PCIB) replaces PCIB 14-01 dated 29Sep01